THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET

December 29, 1971

Henry:

I suggest a "back channel" reply to Ambassador Watson as follows:

"Thanks for the kind words in your thoughtful note of December 15. As to the back channel you can communicate with me in that way at any time, particularly to give me your personal views. If the substance requires action by the Department, of course, it probably will have to be raised in their channel at some point."

If you agree, I will send message to Watson for you.

Approve_____ Disapprove____

Attachment

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SE CRET